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Boston University

MedCenterExtra

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER, BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND DENTAL MEDICINE

June 23, 1998

Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury VA medical centers to consolidate

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has announced its plans to consolidate and integrate the services of the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Jamaica Plain, a BU Medical Center affiliate, with those of the VA Medical Center in West Roxbury.

The consolidation is expected to take place over four years. Under the plan, the Jamaica Plain facility will provide comprehensive outpatient treatment and 24-hour urgent care. All inpatient, as well as some outpatient services, will be provided at the West Roxbury medical center.

As a result of the consolidation, a state-of-the-art ambulatory care center will be created at the Jamaica Plain facility, which will provide an excellent opportunity for medical education and research, as well as quality patient health care.

"The Veterans Administration has indicated its need to consolidate medical facilities in the Boston area for a considerable period of time," says BUSM Dean Aram Chobanian, MD, provost of BU Medical Campus. "Boston University School of Medicine remains dedicated to providing excellent clinical services to veterans and to continuing our teaching and research activities at the VA Medical Center."

The two medical centers are separated by only a few miles and currently offer overlapping services. Transportation to

and from the centers will be provided by ambulances, vans and shuttles. The consolidation helps provide a clear future vision for both facilities.

Since 1996, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has consolidated 46 other VA facilities at 22 locations throughout the United States. Once completed, the merger is expected to save \$100 million over five years. ♦

Communication workshops planned

The BMC Department of Organizational Development & Training is offering two free workshops to help employees better communicate with others in the workplace.

Sounds of Success: This interactive and informal workshop will help you convey an outstanding image over the phone. During the workshop, you will learn to become an effective voice for BMC by using proven phone techniques. *Two sessions are offered – one on Monday, July 13, from 1 to 3 p.m., and the other on Thursday, July 16, from 1 to 3 p.m.*

Panic-Free Presentations: For those who have trouble speaking in large groups or small meetings, this program is for you. The workshop offers a supportive atmosphere for learning key public-speaking techniques. *One program, two sessions, offered over two days – Monday July 13, and Thursday, July 16, 9-11:30 a.m.*

To register or for more information, call 534-5589.